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SEP 20 2007

Application No. 10/536,665

REMARKS

Claims 10-16 are pending. In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants, through their attorney, elect Group I, consisting of claims 10-15, with traverse.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner imposed a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 and 372 between two groups of claims. Applicants elect Group I (claims 10-15) with traverse and respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's restriction requirement.

A restriction requirement is not proper if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden. See, e.g., MPEP 803 ("If the search and examination of all the claims in an application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine them on the merits, even though they include claims to independent or distinct inventions."), emphasis added. In the present case, the Examiner has clearly shown that a search and examination of all of claims 10-16 can be made without serious burden. See, e.g., Office Action of January 3, 2007 (wherein the Examiner completed searching relative to, and examination of, all of claims 10-16).

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's restriction requirement and request examination of all of claims 10-16 on the merits.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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